## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-08 H-01 L-03  $/064\,\mathrm{W}$ 

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P 032029Z FEB 77 FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2330 INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY ALL AMCONSULS CANADA

CONFIDENTIAL OTTAWA 0427

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, MX, CA

SUBJ: U.S./MEXICAN/CANADIAN RELATIONS

REF: A) MEXICO 809; B) MEXICO 1275

1. ACCORDING TO DEREK FRASER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR,
LATIN AMERICAN DIVISION, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS HAS
RECEIVED TWO REPORTS FROM CANADIAN EMBASSY IN
MEXICO CITY ON MEXICAN INTEREST IN CONCEPT OF LATIN
AMERICAN UNION. ONE WAS ACCOUNT OF CANADIAN
AMBASSADOR LANGLEY'S CONVERSATION WITH DEOLLOQUI
SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, AND OTHER WAS SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 2
EXCELSIOR STORY ON POSSIBLE CARTER, TRUDEAU, LOPEZ
PORTILLO MEETING THIS MONTH.

2. DEOLLOQUI TOLD LANGLEY THAT MEXICO HAD FOSTERED IN RECENT YEARS CLOSE TIES WITH OTHER LATIN AMERICAN STATES AND HAD STRESSED ITS ROLE AS A THIRD WORLD NATION, AND THAT IT WAS NOW TIME FOR MEXICO TO "BALANCE" THESE EFFORTS BY GIVING GREATER EMPHASIS TO ITS RELATIONS WITH U.S. AND CANADA. DEOLLOQUI WAS APPARENTLY VAGUE ON WHAT FORM THIS EMPHASIS WOULD TAKE. IN RESPONSE, LANGLEY SIMPLY CONFIDENTIAL

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INDICATED GOC WAS OPEN TO ANY SUGGESTIONS AND WAS DESIROUS OF ESTABLISHING CLOSER RELATIONS WITH MEXICO, AS EVIDENCED BY TRUDEAU'S VISIT TO MEXICO CITY LAST YEAR

3. COMMENT: IN OUR VIEW, CANADIANS WILL HAVE LITTLE INTEREST IN ANY NORTH AMERICAN UNION, AT LEAST IN ANY

INSTITUTIONALIZED FORM. WHEN AMBASSADOR RAISED THIS SUBJECT WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER JAMIESON SEVERAL DAYS AGO, LATTER INDICATED HE HAD NO HEARD OF IT, BUT SAID IDEA STRUCK HIM AS STRANGE AS CROSSBORDER PROBLEMS OF CANADA AND MEXICO WITH U.S. ARE QUITE DIFFERENT. DEREK FRASER ALSO GAVE US IMPRESSION GOC PREFERS TO DEAL WITH MEXICO ON BILATERAL, NOT TRIPARTITE, BASIS. HE NOTED PARTICULARLY THAT THERE IS ALREADY A JOINT CANADIAN-MEXICAN BIENNIAL COMMITTEE AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL AND THAT THERE ARE ANNUAL VISITS OF PARLIAMENTARIANS OF TWO COUNTRIES. ENDERS

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## Message Attributes

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